



Tohoku International School

Secondary School Course Syllabus

Course Title: Secondary Music	Teacher: Mr. Stephen Messano
Grade Level(s): Grades 7-10	Time Frame: 18 weeks (First Semester)
Brief Course Description: In this general music appreciation course, students will study many styles of music. They will learn about various music styles, performers, and genres. Throughout the semester, students will also engage in activities which link music to language arts, social studies, visual arts, and mathematics.	
Course Philosophy: Why study music? Music is a way of expressing human emotion, communicating our feelings of joy, sorrow, celebration, and consolation. Learning about music from other cultures and time periods opens our minds to other people and how they live, which in turn allows us to reflect on our own lives. Performing music in public is a perfect example of joyous risk-taking, giving us the chance to build character and confidence. In creating original musical compositions, we gain the knowledge of how organization and structure can be used to enhance and express human emotion. Analyzing and appreciating various kinds of music allows us to understand with a more open mind the responsibility musicians have for commenting on the times in which they live. Music enriches our minds and helps us find our place in the world.	
Course Objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students will listen to, analyze, and describe music from a variety of time periods and genres. ● Students will understand how music relates to world history and culture. ● Students will understand the relationships between music, the other arts, and disciplines outside the arts. ● Students will sing, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music. ● Students will perform on instruments, alone and with others, a varied repertoire of music. ● Students will improvise melodies, variations, and accompaniments. ● Students will compose and arrange simple music within specified guidelines. 	
Assessments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Projects (20%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Throughout the course, students will be creating and presenting short projects. ○ The projects may be about a particular musician, genre, or historical/cultural connection. ● Quizzes (20%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Several quizzes will be given throughout the semester to check for understanding of the important vocabulary and concepts covered. ● Participation (60%) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students are expected to participate in class discussions and other music-related activities. 	
Course Specific Materials Required: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A4 folder for sheet music and other important papers ● PC for research and composition activities ● Ukulele (may be purchased or borrowed from the school) 	
Additional Notes: This course is intended to be flexible in providing each student many ways of expressing him/herself and demonstrating his/her knowledge. Students are strongly encouraged to share their ideas in unique and interesting ways.	